THE
WRESTLING FLYER
NEWSLETTER

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INTERVIEW
DAVEY BOY SMITH

JC: What do you think is happening right now to wrestling in the states?

DS: I think right now in the states, as far as the World Wrestling Federation goes, I think the people are getting a little bit tired of the WWF. And that's one of the reasons that the cards have been lacking in the WWF for the past several months. I've noticed a tremendous drop in crowds, especially in the major markets. It keeps getting lower and lower. Madison Square Garden normally holds 20,000 people and now you're lucky to get 5,000-8,000 people in there. California was a hot spot and now it's like really bad. In Chicago, I've seen a tremendous drop in the attendance at the Rosemont. I think that's one of the reasons right now that the WWF is in Europe because it's a brand new spot for Titan Sports. It's a brand new ballgame kind of thing. They are lacking entertainment in England, Germany, France, Italy, Ireland, Scotland, so we're like a whole new entertainment going over to Europe. And I believe, what I've heard is that WWF is going over to Europe next year for 145 to 150 days, which is almost six months. So I think they know that attendance is dropping quite a bit and now they have lost me, they've lost The Ultimate Warrior, The Big Bossman is finished after Survivor Series, I heard The Macho Man is finished after Survivor Series, and Earthquake. I just don't know which way the WWF is going right now.

JC: Why are you no longer with the WWF?

DS: I called up Titan Sports last week (11/2-11/6) and I told them that I wasn't happy with what they were doing with me. Then Vince McMahon returned my call in Boston, Massachusetts (11/7). We talked on the phone and I told him my problems, I didn't like the way things were going for me in Titan Sports. He called back Monday night (11/9) and he said, was I still feeling the same way? I don't know really what he was talking about because how can my mind be changed within 48 hours? And I said, yes. He said, "Well, if you still feel that way, then maybe you should go to Japan." I don't know if he was trying my bluff or not, but I have got things happening in Japan and England and I have not even scratched the surface yet of what I can do for myself. There's more to life, John, than the World Wrestling Federation. I've got two kids and a beautiful wife and I want to see more of them. I want to be happy with my job, and I wasn't happy with my job.

JC: What was making you unhappy with your job?

DS: Just the way I was being used. Like I was supposed to be at the Lennox Lewis fight because he carried the flag for me at SummerSlam and then I was supposed to carry the flag for him at his fight as a favor to Sky TV in England. But they (WWF) pulled me out of that at the last minute. Then me and The Hitman and Savage, we made a rap song, and I was supposed to go to England and do the PR work on that, but they (WWF) pulled me out and they're going to send Savage now.

JC: So they're kind of holding you back.

DS: Yes, that's what I'm getting at, John. For reasons, I don't know. Because I'm really powerful in England right now and I'm like the Hulk Hogan in the states. I'm not in it to play power games, I'm in it to make a living and be a wrestler. I've been wrestling since I was 12, I turned pro at 15, and I'm 30 this month, I've been in this business 15 years. And all I want is what I'm deserving of to come back to me. I've put a lot of time and effort into Titan Sports. They may have made me a big hero in England, but as soon as I come back to the states, I get mistreated, I think.

JC: Going back to SummerSlam, it being in England, do you

feel like you were used for that event and then you came back and they sloved down your push?

DS: Yes, yes, and I told Vince that, too. I said, you used me for that event. Well, actually it was doing my four tours over in Europe. I had asked, where was SummerSlam going to be? And they told me, the Washington Cap Centre. I told them, I just mentioned, I don't know why you don't have it in England at Wembley Stadium. Then, I get a call saying we're going to having SummerSlam in Wembley Stadium. I'm not saying I orchestrated it, but I sure pointed out the idea. This is the way I put it to him, John, if you can sellout Birmingham, which holds 20,000 people, my hometown, if you can sellout Sheffield, which is another 20,000 people, if you can sellout London, and Manchester all in one week, in less than thirty minutes, that's 80,000 people. And they're still looking for tickets. I said, if you can sellout that in thirty minutes, you can sellout Wembley Stadium. And there was a couple people saying, "No, no, no, it can't be done." I said, I know how the English people think, I guarantee it will sellout. So I went over there with (Ultimate) Warrior, we did all the public relations work. I did TV, I did news, like twenty newspaper interviews, I mean I was talking from eight o'clock in the morning to midnight at night. I went on gameshows, I did like a million things. So boom, we go over there, we had a great show, which I think was one of the best shows Titan Sports has ever had.

JC: How has this interest in wrestling over in England come about, do you think?

DS: I don't think it's always been there. I think it's since Vince opened the eyes to them, and it's like, "Wow," and the big thing right now over there is the Gladiators (like the American Gladiators). It's like a whole new craze for the kids. Like anything, it burns out after a while.

JC: Right now, wrestling is hot over there. But like you said, everything burns out after a while, like what's happening to wrestling here in the states. Do you think that will also happen sometime to wrestling in England?

DS: Yeah, I think so, and quicker because it's such a small country. No matter where the people live, they're all like three hours away from the arena. They're only going to go see it so often. I think running 150 days (WWF's projected 1993 dates over there) is a long time to run over there. He's giving the states a rest. Hopefully for the business and all the wrestlers, it'll just keep going, because everybody needs work.

JC: What happened to you before SummerSlam? You were out for six weeks before the event?

DS: I was at home six weeks before SummerSlam. I was at TV in Worcester, MA (7/20), and I banged my knee. I was wrestling Mike Sharpe, I gave him a powerslam, and I banged my knee in the mat. I've gone from wearing those big tights with the big kneepads to the Union Jack type tights, so I don't have that heavy kneepad now. I limped into the arena the next day in Portland, ME, and I'm sitting there eating dinner thinking it was just a twisted knee and it's going to go away. And it was getting worse and worse, my leg was swelling. Then I can't walk, I was crawling on things. And I wasn't being helped to go to the hospital or anything. And everybody's like (whistles; meaning others weren't paying attention). But let me tell you something, if it was Hulk Hogan or The Ultimate Warrior or someone like that, there'd be an ambulance waiting for the them. Some guys have that kind of treatment, some guys don't. I went to the hospital, all the x-rays, they couldn't find anything wrong. They said, "Oh, it must be a pulled hamstring." So they put my leg in a little cast. I got back and said, Vince, I've got to go home, I can't handle this, I was in so much pain. And every time I stood up, the blood would run down and hit that infection and cause so much pain. I flew home and it got worse cause I went up in high altitude and now my leg was really blowing up. I got off the plane and Jim Neidhart picked me up at the airport and I went to a doctor, who referred me to a specialist. I went back and they said, "You've got Staphylococcus," the worst Staph infection you can get. It starts eating your muscle away, starts eating your bone away. But they started fighting it just in time. But to this day, I still have a bad knee. And they (WWF) every week to make sure that I was going to be at SummerSlam, to make sure I was healthy enough. And I said, yeah, I'm healthy enough. Which I wasn't, I just wanted that thought, I didn't want to let myself down and I didn't want to let Vince down, because he gave me that spot. I thought it was one of the best shows. We didn't have any stars there, that's what really bugs me, is when he brings these celebrities in for the Wrestlemanias, it just drives me nuts. We're the ones drawing the people, not these celebrities.

JC: What is the morale amongst the boys like while wrestling in the states compared to the morale of the boys while they're wrestling in England?

DS: It's totally different, it's like night and day. Everybody's in the dressing room eating each other's throats kind of thing. But the morale in England, the guys love Europe because the fans just love it.

JC: What's the morale amongst the boys like now with everything getting so low?

DS: I think it's pretty low. It sure was with me, I was losing interest really quick.

JC: What are some of the reasons why that's happening?

DS: Nobody realizes that until you can go home and sit down and you realize, you look back at things, and you say, I can't believe I was actually sitting in the dressing room

and putting up with it. I mean you don't really need it, I just wish some of the other guys would stick behind the rest of us, then it would be a lot better.

JC: What do you think is causing this decline of interest in wrestling here in the states, the all-time low ratings, low houses, what do you think is the actual cause of this?

DS: I think it's because they've seen just about everything that wrestling has to offer. They've seen the same guys on top for so long, and it's just the same guys wrestling different people. It's like paying to see a movie over and over again. They're watching the same people. It's time for a change and I thought SummerSlam was going to be the big change, and I was wrong.

JC: Recently some people have been saying that Vince was going to go back to more athleticism and less gimmicks, like a change in attitude? Is he trying to do that?

DS: I actually think Vince is trying to go back to wrestling. Of course, that's the way they put it to me. Pat Patterson and Vince, they told me they're going back to wrestling, there's no more fighting outside the ring, no more using chairs. It's fine with me, but some of the guys in the territory, I think they couldn't go out there and give them a match without doing fifty clotheslines and fifty flying tackles. 50% of the talent right now can't do it. But the people in England, they just love wrestling. I just wish the people in the states loved it as much as they do over there. They appreciate a good wrestling match like me and Bret gave them. If you do that in the states, all you get are chants, "Boring, boring."

JC: The people over here love wrestling, too, but don't you think that Vince has educated the fans to gimmicks and not wrestling, and that's why this is happening?

DS: Yes, and now he's trying to re-educate them to wrestling, and it's going to take a long time, you can't do it overnight. The people have been through everything and I think to just give a wrestling match right now, they'd find it really boring. People want to see good wrestling, but what they pay to see is entertainment, they don't want to really see wrestling anymore. Because they've been educated to something else, and it's not like 500 people, you're trying to re-educate the whole United States of America. If anybody can do it, Vince can.

JC: What is your relationship with Dynamite Kid today?

DS: He's got a back injury and he had the knee injuries and he was never the same after that. He kind of lost interest, he didn't really want it anymore. I got an offer to come back to Titan Sports (10/90), and he didn't want to come back to Titan Sports. I don't think he wanted to do the traveling anymore because of his back. When he was wrestling for my father-in-law Stu Hart, he was happy doing that and doing Japan because then he would just fly over to Japan and he'd stay there for three or four weeks and he wouldn't have any problems. But he thought if he went back to Titan, he'd be flying all over the states, city to city, and it was too hard on his back. But I wanted to come back to Titan, so we just went our separate ways. I knew he didn't want to continue wrestling much longer anyway, he's retired now, plus he's five years older than me, so I just went by myself. He still wants to work Japan once in a while, and I hear through the grapevine that he might even be a manager in Japan, or train some of the Japanese guys. He still's got it in his blood. It's been so long since I talked to him, we never really talked since we separated. He went his way and I went my way. My mom sees him all the time, every other day (Dynamite Kid works on a road construction crew over in England, Dave's mother lives in England).

JC: Why did you guys leave the WWF back in 1988?

DS: We just had had enough, we were so burned out, tired. And we had left a good deal in Japan, so we wanted to go back. If you're in a territory so long, after a while the people get sick of seeing you, kind of. Okay, we had been in the WWF for four years and it was time to go back to Japan. And we left on good terms, and Vince said, "Anytime you want to come back, just give us a hollar." And when I saw Vince, in 1990, in Japan somewhere, he said, "Do you want to come back," and I said, sure. And I came back by myself. I had a good two years, but sometimes all that traveling is not worth its while.

JC: Do you think that you could have been more successful, business wise, if you guys still worked together?

DS: I didn't realize how popular we were. I was so young then, I was like 23, 25 then. I was too young and not smart enough towards the business part to realize what I could have done and established being a tag team. One of the main reasons I came back (to WWF) is because right then, Sky TV had just come on TV in England and Titan's got the TV show on there and they had no British guy, and then here I was, The British Bulldog. And the people were like, "Wow, we've actually got our own guy on an American circuit." So it was good for me and good for Titan, too.

JC: Since you came into the WWF in October of 1990, isn't your contract up now anyway?

DS: Yeah, my contract's up. But even if it wasn't, I asked Vince and he gave me his word that he would give me a release on my contract. It wasn't like a bad disagreement, I left on good terms.

JC: You seem to have a much slower style now in the ring, did your car accident have anything to do with that?

DS: It kind of slowed me down for a while because I had a

couple bad injuries from that. Like my neck was really screwed up for a long time. I can't believe I came back as quick as I did. (The accident) was July 4, 1989, the same month as Beefcake's (1990) and the same as Adrian Adonis' (1988). I fractured a couple vertebrates in my neck, some pretty bad head injuries, left my eye a little bit lazy.

JC: How young were you when you started out in wrestling?

DS: I first started out in England when I was 15 (years old). I went from my wrestling style (wrestling in England) to the entertainment part (WWF), and now they're trying to go back to wrestling.

JC: When you started out at such a young age, you weighed about 180 pounds and then after the British Bulldogs tag team ended, you gained a lot of weight, and bulked up to over 250 pounds. It was quite a big jump and...

DS: I was trying to drop weight when I was working for my father-in-law. Then, after my car accident, I just said, screw it, I just went on the heavy weightlifting campaign. I was training with a professional bodybuilder from Canada, and I just went nuts, you know. I trained like twice a day, two hours in the morning, two hours at night, I was training like a madman. I was throwing weights around like you wouldn't believe.

JC: Was steroids involved at all in that rapid gain of weight, we're you using steroids during that time?

DS: I'm not denying I ever took them, I did take them, I've always admitted to taking them. But, for the past year and a half, I've been totally clean. That's one of the things that Vince said to me, about my urine tests, "You've always passed your urine tests."

JC: When did steroids become illegal?

DS: I think right up until about a couple years ago. Then it was under the food and drug act, but now it's totally illegal. So we all went off them, you maybe have seen a little bit of a drop in some of the talents in the World Wrestling Federation as far as the bodies go. But we all still try to do our best, I still go in the gym everyday and train hard. I think if you've trained like I have since I've been 15, and I've lifted heavy weights since I was 15, there's 15 years of hard training. Steroids or not, I mean steroids do help, but when it comes down to it, when you see these certain guys dropping in weight really bad, and you see me not even really dropping, people go, "Oh, we'll he's still on them," and it's like, F*** you, I'm not still on them. If I was, I'd admit to it. And if I ever do it again. I don't need it because of all the heavy lifting. These guys, they all take them, and it's like, boom, they get a good quick body and then as soon as they go off, it's like they shrink up. Me, I've trained heavy and hard for years, and you just don't lose weight like that over a couple of months, you're heavy, thick muscle stays with you, I think.

JC: What exactly would you take steroids for?

DS: What it does is, when you tear down your muscle when you train, it rebuilds it twice as fast. It makes your body recuperate to anything twice as fast. So a knee injury, and you take them, you recuperate twice as fast. Sometimes you may not even get that knee injury because you were taking it.

JC: Did you take steroids before for your knee injury?

DS: No, I had to be totally clean. And I wish I could have done them to get my knee better. If I was taking steroids, I don't think I would have got that knee injury. I think it would have kept me strong, it would have prevented me from getting that knee injury. The only thing I could do was the stair-climber for my legs. I bought one of those and put it in my house. I did it as much as I could to keep it in shape.

JC: When you came back to the WWF in 1990, you were 275 pounds, were you on steroids then?

DS: I was just on the verge of quitting them cause I was at that weight where I had trained so hard, I didn't need them anymore. But, I would keep something, you know, standby, if I did get an injury, to keep me along. Then, it was legal, the doctor would prescribe it for you. I would go to the doctor and say, listen doc, I hit my knee or boom, I went through a windshield at 60 mph, and my body would be going into shock because my muscles were all torn up when my neck went through that windshield. The only way to get back on the circuit quick enough is to..... to do certain things.

JC: What were some of the other reasons you would take the steroids?

DS: More or less, I was traveling a lot and it would give me a lot more energy. Just keep me in shape, you know. My gimmick is to be a... I'm The British Bulldog. And I go in the ring and I'm built. That's what I think the people pay to see, they don't want to see some skinny guy go in the ring, I don't think.

JC: Back when there was a major steroid scandal that was covered throughout the media, Bruno Sammartino was on Larry King Live and made the comment, "Are you going to tell me that your Barbarian, Smith (you), and Warlord are off of steroids? Who the heck are you kidding?" How did you feel about that when he mentioned you name on there?

DS: I was really offended by it and it really made me upset because when Bruno was there, I always got along with Bruno and he always liked my work and he appreciated me, when I worked hard, when I went to Pittsburgh and gave the people

a good match, he always thanked me for it, you know. So for him to come out and say that, after I was off them, and getting tested for them, it's like what the hell are you doing? Don't mention my name, I've never done nothing to you. Especially when you don't even know. Why doesn't he bring up his own kid's name. It made me upset that he would say my name after I didn't do one single thing to him. His beef was with Vince, not me.

JC: Did you like working the style you did when you were lighter or do you like your style now better?

DS: When I came back and I was 270, I was like the powerhouse. What's good for me is, I can wrestle any style, I can go in there with Warlord and have a strength match, and then I can turn around and go in there with Bret and have a scientific wrestling match or I can go in there with Curt Hennig or Shawn Michaels and have a highflying match. When I dropped that weight, I've been like 255, when I dropped that 15 pounds, I'm a lot lighter on my feet and I was doing a lot more moves. I can do all the aerial moves, but is it worth your while risking yourself when certain people don't appreciate it. When I get back on the circuit, I'm going to go back to that (wrestling as a sport). Today, I worked out for two hours, went to a Christening, then I came back home and I went on the Stairmaster for 25 minutes, so I'm trying to get my weight down to like 245, 250, so I can do all that aerial stuff again.

JC: Several months ago, when the steroid issue was being talked about, Steve Planamenta told newspapers that you had a thyroid problem and that you couldn't lose weight...

DS: Thyroid problem, when did he say this?

JC: It was during the summer, I think.

DS: Yeah, something was wrong with my thyroid. I think I was dieting too much, trying to cut down my weight, and my thyroid wasn't reacting. But that was nothing, really, my doctor got that fixed real quick.

JC: What are you going to be doing now that you're no longer with the WWF or any organization?

DS: I'm just going to go along and do some things by myself for a while. Not necessarily wrestling, I don't know, I've got some things in mind, I'm not too sure what now. I'm not bad-mouthing Vince, I'm not bad-mouthing Pat Patterson, or bad-mouthing the World Wrestling Federation. I talked to Vince and he said, "You know, you're a great worker, you're a great guy, and the doors' always open if you want to come back. It was a mutual disagreement. I was unhappy and he understood why, he just couldn't come to my agreements right now, and I thought it would be better if I just left. He said to me, "When you want to come back, just give me a call and I'll be in touch with you in a little while," that is the last thing he said to me.

The preceding interview with David Smith was conducted by the editor, John Clark, via telephone from Dave's home near Tampa, Florida, on 11/15. Thank you very much to David and his wife Diana for their time and cooperation. In the near future, Davey Boy Smith plans on going over to England to do commercials, sell vitamins, make special appearances, do fundraisers for cancer (his cousin died of cancer and many of his family members have suffered from it as well), work on a book that will be published concerning his whole life, and possibly be on England TV's British Gladiators.

The following interview with Paul Ellering was conducted by the editor, John Clark, via telephone from Paul's home near Minneapolis, Minnesota, on 11/6. Different occurrences over the past few months between Hawk and Animal have caused many feelings to be hurt and there was a period of time where they were not speaking to each other because of existing personal problems between the two. However, on 11/12 at a benefit in Rochester, NY, they met for the first time since their breakup, although they had spoken over the telephone before that. They hugged and talked like they are slowly resolving their differences. This whole situation has not only effected them and their families, but it has also effected a close friend of theirs, Mr Ellering, who in this interview, discusses his feelings about the situation.

JC: Since you have been with Hawk and Animal for the last ten years as kind of an inspirational teacher and leader, how have you seen their relationship change?

PE: Well, it's a lot like a family. I'll give this analogy; when they started out in wrestling, they were like kids who first had to learn how to walk. Once they knew how to walk, they crawled, then they walked, and then they ran. And you always grow up in any family and you see it a lot in the music business, people testing the waters and stuff like that, I think that's where it's sitting right now. I think that while they want their separate ways, in the end, if they ever get back together as a team, it might make them an even better team than what they were. Because they will have developed, instead of that they had a bond where they depended on each other, if they can develop a sense of independence and maturity about being able to do it alone, I think it may give them confidence, if they ever get back together as a team.

JC: How does this situation effect you? You've been with them along the many stages throughout the ten years. Even with them being at odds right now, they both have nothing wrong with you and have the highest praises for you...

PE: I sit back and listen to both of them and I can understand what each is saying. They were so successful for so long and I think I was a bonding agent for many, many years and I think if the split is a permanent thing, then I would guess that I failed at this stage, that's how I would feel. It does hurt me.

JC: Were they friends in the beginning?

PE: Yes, I think they still are. You see it everyday in any high pressured position. Familiarity breeds contempt and maybe that's what has happened here. We all know each other so well that little things add up to big things.

JC: What do you think has caused them to be at odds with each other?

PE: I would just say that it was a maturation process to where Hawk has decided at this point, he wants to go out on his own and he wants to test the waters. I'm disappointed that this has happened. But at the same time, I wish them both success, individually. I'm sad that it happened, though. I'm still friends with both of them.

JC: Is it hard for you to talk to them today and hear each of them telling you things about the other?

PE: No not at all, because my relationship with them has always been that way. I never repeat anything that the other person says. I felt my sole purpose in uniting the team was being a confident and doing what was best to keep the bond strong and keep it functional. They get in fights on the way home in the cars and stuff. If you've been around the business, you know that that just happens. It's just like kids, but we're adults and we can say, "Well, I want to do something different. We can make that choice and that's what has happened right now. But there is always friction.

JC: You've been with these guys for a very long time. With knowing them like that, do you think they'll ever be together again?

PE: Yeah, I do. If I had to put a time on it, I would say three years.

JC: Do you think all these things that they're saying back and forth to each other is all out of feeling hurt?

PE: Yeah, yeah.

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

The Ultimate Warrior (Jim Hellwig) is no longer with the WWF and will be replaced at all upcoming house shows and at Survivor Series, he'll be replaced by Curt Hennig. The WWF reported that he was fired for unprofessional conduct, the same reason they gave for his dismissal after last year's SummerSlam. However, the real story is that he walked out because he wants more money and a better deal on the merchandising of his character. His new agent, Miss Licia Murphy, was an employee in Titan's offices until several weeks ago when she departed to go work for the Warrior. He had been negotiating with Vince for more money until he quit on Monday, 11/9, one day after his last house show appearance in Florida on Sunday 11/8. Several sources say that Vince was trying to get him back but it seems Warrior won't be back. That left Vince in a bind as Warrior was one of the top three draws that the WWF had going for them, which didn't seem to be working anyway. After Hulk Hogan, Roddy Piper, and Sid Justice made it clear that they would be unable to return in the near future, or maybe never, Mr. McMahon knew he needed to come up with something to fill the void. "Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig has been out of action since August of 1991 because of a very serious back injury. He was on a Lloyd's of London insurance policy that granted him about $300,000 for every year that he didn't wrestle or until the injury healed. Curt has wanted to get back in the ring for a while now and the subject has been discussed many times recently about his return. McMahon bought out Hennig's policy for a reported $800,000 with other bonuses and now Hennig is allowed to wrestle. However, they had to bring him in as a face because Curt can't take those wild bumps anymore because of the severity of his back injury. They taped the angle for a day or two after Warrior quit (11/11 or 11/12) that aired on the 11/16 Prime Time Wrestling. The angle came off very well and it seemed very realistic. The upcoming Hennig-Flair matches should be great, we'll just have to see if Hennig's back is better. He has been working out in rings lately to make sure he can still do it. He has been very unhappy as of late, as he's wanted to get back in the ring for a while now and he was hearing people talk about him all the time about him not being able to cut it. That's why you could say that his turn on Prime Time was a shoot.

Others in the WWF are also getting tired of the current conditions. The Mountie (Jacques Rougeau) quit on 10/27 to open up a golf center in his hometown of Montreal. Earthquake (John Tenta) has made it clear that his last day will be the 1/24 Royal Rumble. Davey Boy Smith has left. The Big Bossman (Ray Traylor) will take a couple months worth of rest after Survivor Series and some say he won't be back. Randy Savage will take a month off after Survivors and is scheduled to return on 12/26.

The first round of depositions for Billy Graham's (Wayne Coleman) lawsuit with Titan Sports started on 11/12 in Philly. Graham contends that Titan Sports condoned and propagated the use of anabolic steroids. He is also suing the following drug companies (CIBA-GEIGY, Mead Johnson, Organon Pharmaceuticals, SEARLE & CO, and Winthrop) as he contends they did not provide him with fair warning of the potential damages that may result from misuse. The second round of depositions, where Titan's and the drug company's attorneys will interview him, will take place in a couple weeks. Titan is still attempting to delay the case and also keep the contents of the depositions from going public.

Nailz (Kevin Kelly) still operates his Black Tie Limousine Service...The angle with Kamala splashing Howard Finkel and Finkel's argument with Harvey Whippleman was originally going to be done with Jamison...For WWF drug tests now, the wrestlers have to walk into the room, only wearing their underwear...Vince's wife Linda McMahon (50% owner of Titan Sports) and the WWF were recently recognized in New York by the local mayor for their involvement with

community sponsored events for charitable organizations. Undertaker, Fred Blassie, and Bobby Heenan were also there to represent the WWF...Jim Duggan was recently hyping the WWF on their England TV and said that they drew 85,000 fans into Tokyo's Egg Dome, which actually only holds 65,000... Brutus Beefcake recently opened a Gold's Gym in Boston, MA, and says that he and Hulk Hogan have just about signed a TV deal with the producers of Baywatch, which they would start filming in January...1993's WrestleMania will be in Las Vegas at Caesar's Palace on 4/4. The Mirage in Las Vegas stated that they would never hold an event like that at their facility.

WWF at the Arco Arena in Sacramento, CA, on 11/13 with 4,000 fans and the same results apply for the Los Angeles Sports Arena in Los Angeles, CA, on 11/14 and the Oakland Coliseum in Oakland, CA: Skinner pinned Louie Spicollie. Crush pinned Berzerker. Lance Cassidy pinned Terry Taylor. Headshrinkers beat High Energy. Tatanka beat Shawn Michaels by countout. Bret Hart beat Rick Martel. Undertaker (sub for Warrior) beat Nailz (sub for Flair) in less than a minute with a choke slam because Undertaker is injured and can't move very well right now.

WWF at the Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto, ON, on 11/15: Max Moon pinned Brooklyn Brawler. Bob Backlund pinned Papa Shango in a match that could be very symbolic of the WWF's changing philosophy of what wrestling should be. Damien Demento pinned Tito Santana. Razor Ramon beat Randy Savage by countout. Big Bossman beat Kamala. Virgil beat Repo Man. Money Inc beat Natural Disasters when IRS pinned Typhoon.

WWF at the Palace of Auburn Hills, MI, on 11/20: Ramon beat Savage by countout. Nailz pinned Bossman in a cage. Backlund (sub for Bulldog) beat Michaels by countout. Money Inc beat Disasters when IRS pinned Quake. Tatanka beat Repo Man. Max Moon pinned Taylor. Cassidy pinned Skinner. High Energy beat Tom Stone & Barry Horowitz.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

Two weeks of WCW Saturday Night were taped on 11/16 at Center Stage in Atlanta. They will air on 11/21 and 11/28, with the first week being described as excellent and the next week being described as poor. Highlights of the 11/21 show saw Brad Armstrong & Marcus Alexander Bagwell beat The Terminators (Al Greene & Marc Laurinaitis -LOD Animal's brother) in a good match. Paul Orndorff made his debut as a heel and challenged Ron Simmons to a match taking place the next week. They acknowledged Orndorff's current feud with Ron Garvin in Jim Cornette's Tennessee-based Smoky Mountain Wrestling. Sting & Van Hammer (who's getting a big push) beat Rick Rude and Cactus Jack by DQ when Barbarian & Tony Atlas ran in and attacked the faces. Simmons made the hot save, but then lost his advantage. Then, out of nowhere came Big Van Vader who ran in the ring and splashed the fallen Sting. This whole scene got a lot of heat and was very good. Later in the show, Vader was being interviewed when Sting came out and nailed him with a board, which looked really good. In a match for the King of Cable, Vader pinned Dustin Rhodes and the show ended with a Vader interview, leaving him more over than anyone right now. The show being aired on 11/28 saw Orndorff announce that his new manager would be Madusa. Van Hammer pinned Cactus Jack with a legdrop off the ropes (ala Hogan) in a match that was almost like a squash match. Tex Slazenger & Shanghai Pierce worked a squash and after their match, they had a four way brawl with Tom Zenk & Johnny Gunn. Superstar Erik Watts & Kensuke Sasaki beat Arn Anderson & Steve Austin when Watts forced Arn to submit with the STF! Orndorff beat Simmons by countout after Rude ran in and piledrived the WCW Champion on the floor.

The Clash of the Champions on 11/18 saw the long awaited turn of Barry Windham. He attacked Dustin after the match and during a Steamboat, Douglas interview, Windham attacked them with a chair. Steamboat suffered a legit injury from the chair shot and had to get several stitches in his head. An interesting note from the show, out of the 2:30 show, there was only about 1:10 of wrestling. The last two matches were very good, but the rest of the show wasn't better than average.

Jim Cornette of Smoky Mountain Wrestling and Bill Watts have been talking frequently for the past two weeks and out of these talks could come a working relationship between the two organizations. Paul Orndorff, a current wrestler for SMW, now has a role with WCW that could be the first indication that they will work with one another. Bill Watts gave the following comments to The Wrestling Flyer Newsletter on 11/19: "I hope he's successful. The only thing he and I were talking about was where the industry's going, what he's doing, and there's no big deal or anything in the works. We might cooperate in some talent and stuff, eventually, who knows, but it was just kind of one of those visits to bring each other up to date and having an exchange of ideas. The bad thing that happened is right after that, it was put on our 900 number that Jimmy was here, and it caused him a lot of grief because naturally, guys called him and said, hell, are you going out of business. And he's not, he's not going out of business. The whole thing I said to him is that if we ever worked out something, the one thing you have to know, is that we weren't going to be like a tiger and try to swallow him." When he was asked about Paul Orndorff's appearance at Center Stage, he responded, "That was with Jimmy's blessing because he's going to be on Starrcade, and Paul lives here, so he was not booked, that didn't conflict with any of Jimmy's bookings. Whatever Paul's dates would be for me will not be dates that Jimmy needs him for. As far as I'm concerned, Jimmy has first call on Paul Orndorff. I think Paul's a great athlete and I'd like a good mix, so we'll use Paul, but we're not stealing Paul from Jimmy Cornette. Paul would love to work for us because it's here at home and it's got a high money potential, but he also has a great respect for Jimmy and I discussed with Paul that we would not pull him out from under Jimmy Cornette." When he was asked about how he would like a working relationship between the two, he responded, "Well, there's nothing been defined and we were just discussing different. I think the first thing that any independent worries about is, like getting in bed with a tiger that's going to eat you. Basically speaking, if they're not

careful, what happens is their talent that's up and coming, gets taken and you don't get anything back. As a matter of fact, when I wanted Paul for Starrcade, I called Jimmy and asked him if he had him booked that day, can I have him. He said, no, we're not running that day, you can have him. We just said, let's maintain our friendship and our relationship and if there's sometime down the line I can help you or you can help me, we'll do it. There's nothing formal at this point, I think everybody's looking at it right now as much more than it is."

Nikita Koloff is expected to be out for about two months as he hurt his neck and he also has a hernia. He could need surgery that would take him out for about three months.

Magnum Terry Allen tripped backstage at the Clash and broke three bones in one of his hands, but he should be alright.

WCW will make it's return to Philly at the Civic Center on 12/29, the day after Starrcade. The scheduled card could be considered excellent. Vader challenges the WCW Champion (Simmons vs Rude at Starrcade for the belt), Sting-Muta, Rhodes-Windham, Austin-Chono, Douglas & Steamboat-Sasaki & Liger, Paul E-Madusa, Badd-Flamingo, Anderson & Eaton-Pillman & a partner to be named, and a match with Erik Watts.

WCW at the West La Follette Elementary School (no joke) in La Follette, TN, on 11/12: Marcus Bagwell beat Shanghai Pierce. Johnny Gunn beat Tex Slazenger. Tom Zenk beat Larry Zbyszko. Brad Armstrong beat Michael Hayes. Johnny B. Badd beat Scotty Flamingo. Dustin Rhodes & Barry Windham beat Arn Anderson & Bobby Eaton when Windham pinned Anderson.

WCW at the Jacksonville Coliseum in Jacksonville, FL, on 11/13: Erik Watts beat Dallas Page. Tony Atlas beat John Peterson. Van Hammer beat Vinnie Vegas. Ricky Steamboat & Shane Douglas beat Brian Pillman & Steve Austin when Steamboat pinned Austin after a flying bodypress. Rick Rude beat Kensuke Sasaki by DQ when Sasaki hit Rude with his belt. Sting pinned Cactus Jack in a falls count anywhere match. Ron Simmons pinned Barbarian.

WCW Clash of the Champions at the Macon Coliseum in Macon, GA, on 11/18: Brian Pillman pinned Brad Armstrong. Erik Watts & Kensuke Sasaki beat Arn Anderson & Bobby Eaton when Watts forced Eaton to submit to the STF. In a Boxing Match, Scotty Flamingo knocked Johnny B. Badd with a water-filled glove. Ron Simmons & Too Cold Scorpio (Flying Scorpio from Japan) beat Tony Atlas & Barbarian & Cactus Jack when Scorpio pinned Atlas. Madusa wrestled Paul E. to a double-countout. Sting beat Rick Rude by decision. Ricky Steamboat & Shane Douglas beat Barry Windham & Dustin Rhodes when Douglas pinned Windham.

THE INDEPENDENT SCENE

Herb Abrams claims that his UWF will start up again in January with shows in New York. Do you believe him?

PWA at Ropers Nightclub in Fridley, MN, on 11/9 with 315 fans: Road Warrior Hawk (who will be having that name trademarked) & Kensuke Sasaki (who'll be Hawk's new tag team partner for future dates in Japan) beat Randy Gusto & The Dynamic. Masa Saito & Brad Rheingans beat Jerry Lynn & The Lightning Kid.

UWW at the Neshaminy High School in Langhorne, PA, on 11/14 with 328 fans: Paul Orndorff beat Honky Tonk Man (who made some very humorous remarks about Joel Goodhart owing him and the fans money) by DQ. Nikolai Volkoff beat Ken Patera by DQ. King Kaluha & Sandman beat Tony Stetson & Larry Winters.

WWA at the Wayne High School in Wayne, NJ, on 11/14 with 400 fans: Terry Funk beat Eddie Gilbert in a Texas Death Match bloodbath that ended when Funk made it to his feet as both had been knocked out on the floor. Chris Candito beat Sabu on a reverse decision. Spider & Sledgehammer McGill & Cheetah Kid beat Tank & Chris Evans & Boy Gone Bad. They return to Clementon, NJ'S Coliseum on 11/28 with Lightning Kid vs Bill Wilcox and Chris Candito vs Ray Odyssey.

WIN at Martin's North Point in Dundalk, MD, on 11/15: The Cream Team won a tourney to become the first WIN Tag Team Champions. Lightning Kid wrestled Ricky Blues to a double-countout. Ivan Koloff beat Lucifer Knight of the Road. WIN Champion A.C. Golden & Nikolai Volfoff beat Axl Rotten & Magnificent Muroco when Golden pinned Rotten.

ECW at the Chestnut Cabaret in Philly with 160 fans: The Sandman pinned Don Muroco to win the ECW title when Sandman's manager Peaches threw powder in Muroco's face. Johnny Hotbody beat Glen Osbourne by DQ when Glen threw fire in Hotbody's face. Tony Stetson beat Jimmy Snuka by DQ. They return to Philly on 11/28 at the Kensington Youth Hall with a card that will be taped as a pilot for Sports Channel.

UWA at the Dunne Sports Center in Elizabeth, NJ, with 1,000 fans: Jim Neidhart beat Mike Sharpe. The Samoans (Afa & Lloyd) beat a mexican team. Misty Blue beat Linda Dallas.

WWWA at the Lakeside Ballroom in Barnesville, PA, on 11/21 with 500 fans: Larry Winters beat Flex Wheeler. Mr. Ebony beat Johnny Rebel. Heidi Lee Morgan beat The Angel of Death. Steve Savage & Jim the Messenger beat Tommy Dreamer & Rockin Rebel by DQ. Davey Boy Smith beat Jack Hammer to win the vacant WWWA IC title (Tony Atlas was the champion but departed for WCW). Jim Neidhart beat Demolition Crash. Jack Hammer won a battle royal when he eliminated Davey Boy. LOD Hawk and Ax were falsey advertised and of course, weren't there. They also were advertising "Elizabeth" to be the manager for Neidhart, which was also very deceitful.

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